

# Payment Integrity Scorecard

**Program or Activity**  
Internal Revenue Service - Refundable Premium Assistance Tax Credit

**Reporting Period**  
Q3 2023

**FY 2022 Overpayment Amount (\$M)\*** **\$578**

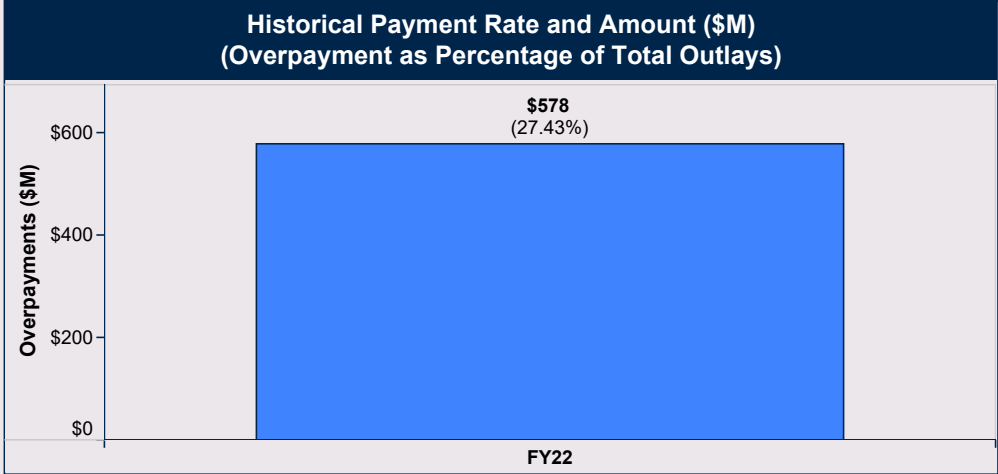
\*Estimate based a sampling time frame starting 1/2019 and ending 12/2019



**Treasury**  
Internal Revenue Service - Refundable Premium Assistance Tax Credit

**Brief Program Description & summary of overpayment causes and barriers to prevention:**

The Premium Tax Credit is a refundable credit that helps eligible individuals and families cover the premiums for their health insurance purchased through the Marketplace. Approximately \$0.08B of Net PTC overclaims are from program design limitations. Barriers caused by program design occur when information needed to confirm payment accuracy is not available at the time the return is processed. Approximately \$0.50B of Net PTC overclaims are from the inability to authenticate eligibility because the data needed does not exist. Authentication is difficult because IRS relies primarily on self-reported information from the taxpayers and there is a lack of internal or external databases available with information on eligibility.



**Discussion of Actions Taken in the Preceding Quarter and Actions Planned in the Following Quarter to Prevent Overpayments**

Pre-Refund Examinations – The IRS identifies tax returns and amended returns (or, in the case of amended returns, prevents the issuance of the refund) for examination and holds the refundable credit portion of the refund until an audit can be completed. •Math Error Adjustments – Automated process in which the IRS has been granted statutory authority to identify certain math or other computational irregularities and automatically adjusts the return for the taxpayer. •Pre-Refund Automated Questionable Credit Program – Automated program designed to protect revenue by covering returns that are currently untreated or undertreated by other available programs across the IRS.

**Accomplishments in Reducing Overpayment** **Date**

<b>1</b>	The IRS conducted audits of returns claiming the PTC to recapture payments that were made to potentially ineligible taxpayers or payments for the wrong amount that were made to eligible taxpayers.	Jun-23
<b>2</b>	The IRS held its annual Dependent Database meeting in June 2023 with IRS stakeholders to evaluate the value of prior-year compliance filters for audit selection and identify improvement opportunities for the next filing season.	Jun-23
<b>3</b>	The IRS recently updated Publication 5075, Maximize Your Tax Refund by Claiming Refundable Tax Credits, to include links, tools and IRS social media outlets.	Jun-23

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Goals towards Reducing Overpayments		Status	ECD	Recovery Method	Brief Description of Plans to Recover Overpayments	Brief Description of Actions Taken to Recover Overpayments
1	Conduct pre-refund audits.	On-Track	Sep-23	1 <b>Recovery Activity</b>	The IRS uses the Dependent Database, a risk-based scoring and selection application which is designed to select audits to recapture payments that were made to ineligible taxpayers or payments for the wrong amount that were made to eligible taxpayers.	Through the third quarter of FY23, the IRS has completed examinations of nearly 3,000 returns claiming the PTC, protecting nearly than \$15M.
2	Reject electronic returns with missing or inconsistent information via math error.	On-Track	Sep-23			

Amt(\$)	Root Cause of Overpayment	Root Cause Description	Mitigation Strategy	Brief Description of Mitigation Strategy and Anticipated Impact
<b>\$503M</b>	Overpayments outside the agency control that occurred because the Data/Information Needed Does Not Exist.	Approximately \$0.50B of Net PTC overclaims are from the inability to authenticate eligibility because data does not exist. Authentication is difficult and is reliant primarily on self-reported information and there is a lack of databases available to determine eligibility.	Cross Enterprise Sharing - sharing of documents, processes, and opportunities with intra-agency partners and stakeholder. Potentially managed through federated repositories and a registry to create a longitudinal connection to information used to mitigate Improper Payments	The IRS will also continue to collaborate with the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) through the Premium Tax Credit Workgroup and Sub-Workgroup on issues related to improper payments of the PTC.
<b>\$75M</b>	Overpayments outside the agency control that occurred because of an Inability to Access the Data/Information Needed.	Approximately \$0.08B of Net PTC overclaims are from program design limitations. Barriers caused by program design occur when information needed to confirm payment accuracy is not available at the time the return is processed.	Change Process – altering or updating a process or policy to prevent or correct error.	The IRS will continue to hold its annual Dependent Database meetings with IRS stakeholders to evaluate the value of prior-year compliance filters for audit selection of returns claiming the PTC and identify improvement opportunities for the next filing season.